

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7709–S7804

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3363–3369, and S. Res. 632–635. **Page S7780**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 4210, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 401 Washington Avenue in Weldon, North Carolina, as the “Dock M. Brown Post Office Building”.

H.R. 5477, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 South Del Mar Avenue in San Gabriel, California, as the “Chi Mui Post Office Building”.

H.R. 5483, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10449 White Granite Drive in Oakton, Virginia, as the “Private First Class David H. Sharrett II Post Office Building”.

H.R. 5631, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1155 Seminole Trail in Charlottesville, Virginia, as the “Corporal Bradley T. Arms Post Office Building”.

H.R. 6061, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 219 East Main Street in West Frankfort, Illinois, as the “Kenneth James Gray Post Office Building”.

H.R. 6085, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 42222 Rancho Las Palmas Drive in Rancho Mirage, California, as the “Gerald R. Ford Post Office Building”.

H.R. 6150, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14500 Lorain Avenue in Cleveland, Ohio, as the “John P. Gallagher Post Office Building”.

S. 3241, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1717 Orange Avenue in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the “CeeCee Ross Lyles Post Office Building”. **Pages S7779–80**

Measures Passed:

Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act: Senate passed S. 2617, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2008, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities

and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7795–97**

Former Vice President Protection Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5938, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide secret service protection to former Vice Presidents, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S7797–98**

Pryor (for Leahy/Specter) Amendment No. 5257, to amend title 18, United States Code, to enable increased federal prosecution of identity theft crimes and to allow for restitution to victims of identity theft. **Pages S7797–98**

Minority Party Appointments: Senate agreed to S. Res. 635, making minority party appointments for the 110th Congress. **Page S7798**

Measures Considered:

Free Flow of Information Act: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2035, to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media. **Pages S7710–22, S7722–59**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 51 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 191), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S7721**

Senator Reid entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S7721**

Subsequently, the motion to proceed was withdrawn. **Page S7759**

Jobs, Energy, Families, and Disaster Relief Act: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3335, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions. **Page S7722**

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Senator Reid entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill.

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National Defense Authorization Act: Senate began consideration of S. 3001, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year. **Pages S7759–68**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Friday, August 1, 2008.

Page S7759

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, July 31, 2008; provided further, that the time from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. be controlled in alternating 30-minute blocks of time between the Majority and Republican sides, with the Republican side controlling the first 30 minutes. **Page S7798**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the actions of certain persons to undermine the sovereignty of Lebanon or its democratic processes and institutions; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–61) **Pages S7774–75**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

James A. Slutz, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Fossil Energy).

Patrick W. Dunne, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Navy.

Pages S7799–S7804

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

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Messages from the House:

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Measures Referred:

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Measures Placed on the Calendar:

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Enrolled Bills Presented:

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Petitions and Memorials:

Pages S7776–79

Executive Reports of Committees:

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Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S7780–82

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S7782–91

Additional Statements:

Pages S7772–74

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S7791–94

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Pages S7794–95

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S7795

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—192) **Pages S7721, S7722**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:58 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 31, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7798.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Committee announced the following subcommittee changes:

Subcommittee on Defense: Senators Inouye (Chairman), Byrd, Leahy, Harkin, Dorgan, Durbin, Feinstein, Mikulski, Kohl, Murray, Cochran, Stevens, Specter, Domenici, Bond, McConnell, Shelby, Gregg, and Hutchison.

Senator Byrd, as chairman of the Committee, and Senator Cochran, as ranking minority member of the Committee, are ex officio members of all subcommittees of which they are not regular members.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters, receiving testimony from General Norton A. Schwartz, USAF, Commander, United States Transportation Command, Department of Defense.